

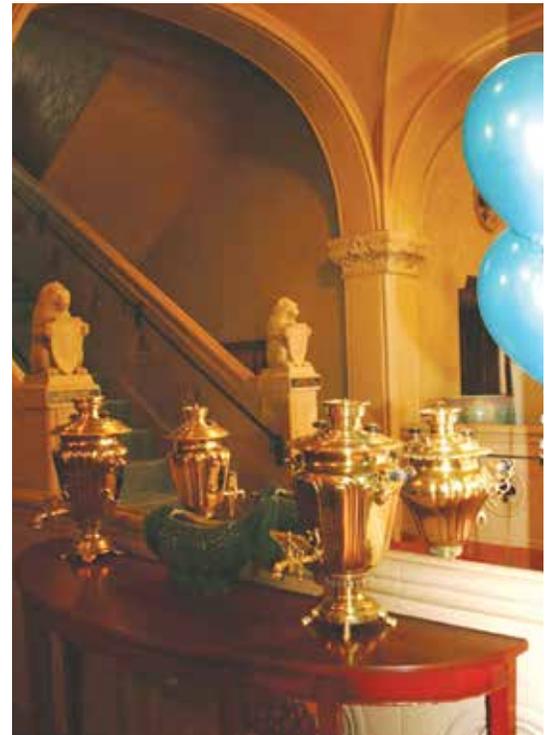
THE CONSERVANCY CELEBRATES ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

ON OCTOBER 20TH, Conservancy supporters and Berkeley City Club members celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Conservancy. The celebration highlighted the restorations and improvements that the Conservancy and the City Club have achieved, shed light on seldom-seen areas of the Club, and identified work that still needs to be done.

Photo courtesy of Trevor Johnson



Pool filters in the Boiler Room



Stairwell in the Fire Tower

Guests were given a set of questions that tested their knowledge of the building and its history. Answers were delivered through tours that visited the Fire Tower, the Fourth Floor Terrace, the boiler room for a closer look at the hard-working pool filters, and the West Court. A stop at the pool viewing area showcased the ongoing ventilation project and the damage that 85 years of humidity has done to glass, metal, tile, and concrete.

While it was clear to all that the 50 year partnership between the Club and the Conservancy has gone far to preserve the building and to maintain its character, it was equally apparent that many critical repairs await funding. So we celebrate the accomplishments of the last 50 years and resolve to more than match them during the next half century.

Think you know everything about the Berkeley City Club building? Go to berkeleycityclubconservancy.org/secrets-of-the-castle for the challenge.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Mon., January 11, 2016 ♦ 7:00PM
at the Berkeley City Club

Please join us for the first lecture of our 2016 series.
Enjoy the new Meyer Sound system in the Ballroom.

\$15 | Purchase your tickets at www.eventbrite.com | Check our website for details: berkeleycityclubconservancy.org

JULIA MORGAN:

A TALK *with* DR. KAREN McNEILL

Historian and Conservancy board member
Karen McNeill will reprise her talk about
Julia Morgan, an American Architect in Paris.

NEWS FROM THE CASTLE
FALL 2015

News from the Castle is the official newsletter of the Berkeley City Club Conservancy. The Conservancy is a tax-exempt charitable organization dedicated to the preservation of the unique Julia Morgan-designed building that is home to the Berkeley City Club.

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The Julia Morgan Preservation Fund Committee of the Conservancy meets monthly to approve projects and disbursements. The Conservancy Board meets bimonthly. Anyone is welcome to attend these meetings; call (510) 883-9710.

Public tours are jointly sponsored by the Conservancy and the Berkeley City Club the fourth Sunday of every month except December. For public tour details or information on group tours, contact the Berkeley City Club Conservancy.



**BERKELEY CITY CLUB
CONSERVANCY**
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www.berkeleycityclubconservancy.org

The Conservancy office is staffed
Wednesday & Thursday 10am–2pm

POOL VENTILATION PROJECT

THE POOL VENTILATION PROJECT is nearing completion. Failing window fans, installed more than half a century ago, were replaced with a single exhaust blower hidden from sight under the viewing gallery. The next step will be restoration — replacing the windows and surrounding stucco that have been damaged by the swelling of the corroding steel casement frames.

Major funding for the pool room ventilation project is provided by the Berkeley City Club Conservancy and the Berkeley City Club. The work has been conducted with the collaborative efforts of Conservancy volunteers, members and staff of the Berkeley City Club, Ansari Structural Engineers, and IES Indoor Environmental Services.



Photo courtesy of Trevor Johnson

Cut in the exterior wall which adjoins the Eastern Breezeway for the new pool ventilation system.

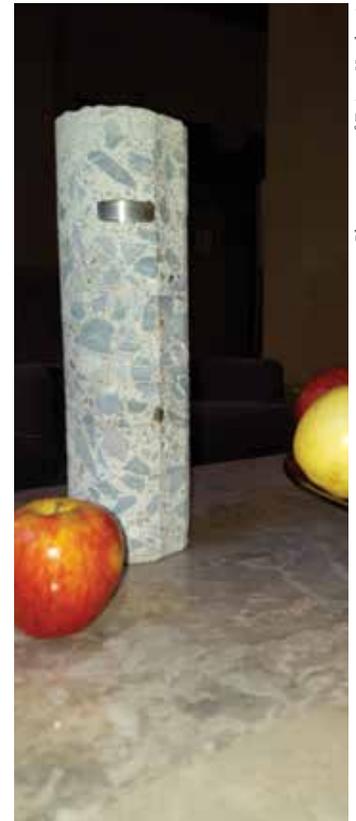


Photo courtesy of Tatjana Haschemi

13" concrete cylinder from the wall cut. Julia Morgan ordered this specific high-quality concrete mix.

WE NEED YOU ∞ Whether we visit the Berkeley City Club regularly or only occasionally, each of us wants to preserve the building for as long as possible and in as good shape as possible. But the costs of doing so are daunting. Only if each of us chips in as much as we can afford can we keep pace with the deterioration that a well-used building experiences as it reaches a human's life span. ∞ Recently, workers identified more than 50 windows that need repair, either because the glass is broken or because the caulking leaks. The façade needs major work, and forecasts of an El Niño winter translate to possible leaking roofs building-wide. During 2015, with considerable Conservancy support, the Berkeley City Club has spent more than \$100,000 on building restoration. It will cost the Club and Conservancy more than \$1 million to attend to the façade, windows, and roof needs. Please be generous with your tax deductible contribution to the Conservancy. ∞

GIFTS TO THE CONSERVANCY

IN JUNE, the Conservancy once again became the owners of 21 chairs that Julia Morgan designed for the Berkeley City Club building. Sometime in the dim past, the chairs were “deaccessioned,” ultimately becoming ballroom seating in a large Piedmont house. Their most recent owners, Holly Hine Suich and Charles H. Hine, III, realized that the chairs really belonged back in their original home, where they now grace the Julia Morgan Room. Since the chairs’ design is very similar to those in the Dining Room, the two rooms now complement each other beautifully, much as Julia Morgan originally intended.

A beautiful 8’ X 12’ Heriz rug was recently donated to the Conservancy by Club member Chuck Wolfram, for use in the building. Representatives of the Conservancy in conjunction BCC house committee and management will find the most fitting location in the rug’s new home.

We are all grateful for these lovely and appropriate gifts.



Photo courtesy of Talina Hachimi

Julia Morgan-designed chairs at home.

HAPPY 85th BIRTHDAY to the BERKELEY CITY CLUB BUILDING & the Berkeley City Club Conservancy (50 years) in 2015

IN NOVEMBER 1930 four thousand plus (yes 4,000+) members of the Berkeley Women’s City Club celebrated the opening of their new clubhouse on Durant Avenue with a week-long series of events. Among them were tours, luncheons, teas, receptions, and a traditional Thanksgiving dinner. The women, members of several small clubs, had founded the BWCC in 1927 with the plan to build a large clubhouse where they could hold their meetings. It would include resident rooms and a pool.

Julia Morgan was hired to design and oversee construction of the building. Her six-floor reinforced concrete structure was built in 11 months, an almost unheard of feat. Contractors and architects have said that today you could not get all the studies and necessary permits in that time frame. Julia Morgan also designed some of the original dishes and furnishings, among them the dining room tables and chairs (see article about recent donation of chairs). Original dishes are on display in cases in the Julia Morgan Room and in the Julia Morgan



History Center. Many early members donated furnishings for their building and several groups donated the three grand pianos.

During and after World War II, as women went to work in large numbers, Club membership dwindled and the residents aged and moved on. To increase membership numbers, the Club began admitting men to its ranks in 1963. Gradually the residential rooms were utilized as a bed-and-breakfast facility which then became a hotel and now is a Historic Hotel via the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

With a smaller dues-paying membership, deferred maintenance over the years has greatly increased. The Conservancy’s mission is to help preserve this historic building, and *we urge the readers of “News from the Castle” to contribute to this cause. There are many, many needs: leaded glass windows, furniture and rug repair, door refinishing, exterior surface conservation, tile restoration — not to mention the pool windows project. The list goes on and on.*

— DONATIONS ARE FULLY TAX DEDUCTIBLE —

SEND US YOUR EMAIL! GO GREEN & KEEP INFORMED.

TRIVIA QUIZ « *What do you know about the Conservancy and Julia Morgan's Berkeley City Club building?* »



Have fun with these questions, then confirm your answers at www.berkeleycityclubconservancy.org

1. What was the first name of the Berkeley City Club?
2. On what date did the building formally open?
(Hint: Read the newsletter thoroughly.)
3. How many rooms were reserved originally for men?
Where were they?
4. Where is the Julia Morgan History Center?
5. What was the name of the Berkeley City Club Conservancy before the change in 2014?
6. Which anniversary is the Conservancy celebrating in 2015?
(This one is too easy!)

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You shop. Amazon gives.

If you are an Amazon.com customer, you can contribute to preserving the building at virtually no cost to yourself by registering with Amazon.smile. Amazon will contribute 0.5% of its sales of most products to a charity an Amazon customer designates at Amazon.smile.

The Berkeley City Club Conservancy is a qualifying charity.

To take advantage of this Amazon program, go to smile.amazon.com, sign on with your Amazon.com username and password, and designate the Berkeley City Club Conservancy as your chosen charity. The only cost to you will be the effort to register with Amazon.smile and designate the Berkeley City Club Conservancy as your preferred charity.

The Conservancy's mission is to preserve the City Club building and the Conservancy is contributing \$50,000 of the cost of the current pool ventilation enhancement project. With better ventilation, we can concentrate on repairing those surfaces damaged by years of high humidity.